



Recycling Lines

Electronic Newsletter

June 2006

Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Environmental Enhancement

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DEQ's Community Involvement Initiative: The Department of Environmental Quality is dedicated to helping the public better understand DEQ's role in protecting the environment, and to involving the public more effectively in environmental decision making.

Welcome to Recycling Lines. We hope that some of this information is helpful to you in your programs, and hope you'll help us with news from your area related recycling. Let us know by sending this information to Steve Coe at

gscoe@deq.virginia.gov.

Recycling Rate Report Changes for CY 2006

Legislation passed in 2006 is expected to affect how localities calculate and report their recycling program activities next year. This legislation (HB647) was developed by the Recycling Markets Development Council and introduced by Delegate E. T. Scott to provide relief for rural areas and areas with high unemployment, many of whom were having trouble meeting the mandated 25% recycling rate. Many of these localities saw the 25% recycling level as unachievable due to market conditions or other variables.

Effective July 1, 2006, Virginia localities will be challenged to reach recycling levels of 15% or 25%, with the mandated level predicated upon population density and unemployment levels for the locality or region. The following criteria apply for the 15% mandate: 1) a population density rate of less than 100 persons per square mile, or 2) a civilian unemployment rate that is at least 50% greater than the state average. DEQ will provide the documentation needed for the 15% recycling rate determination.

The legislation also provides for recycling credits for the following:

- ✓ Any locality that reports and documents any type of source reduction program will receive an automatic 2 percentage points towards their recycling rate.
- ✓ Credit will be given for each ton of recycling residue generated in Virginia and deposited in a landfill permitted under subsection M of § 10.1 – 1408.1.
- ✓ Credit will be given for each ton of any solid waste material that is reused.
- ✓ Credit will be given for each ton of any non-municipal solid waste material that is recycled.

These additional credits are designed to encourage localities to implement and promote recycling as well as source reduction and reuse programs.

To read HB 647 and see the changes that have been made to § 10.1-1411 of the Code of Virginia, go to:

<http://leg1.state.va.us/cgi-bin/legp504.exe?061+ful+HB647ER>

For questions about the projected impact of these changes to Virginia's recycling rate and locality reports, contact Steve Coe at (804) 786-4029 or gscoe@deq.virginia.gov.

Web Link of Interest:

<http://www.people.virginia.edu/~cng9r/studentpage/programs.htm>

Are You News Worthy?

"Recycling Lines" is over 1-year old now, and we've been pleased to provide a window into what is happening both inside and outside Virginia in recycling-related programs. We've seen the national focus on electronics recovery and recycling, the emergence of single-stream recycling collection programs, and the many Earth Day events hosted by your local programs.

We want to make "Recycling Lines" a mirror on Virginia's recycling program activities and to highlight Virginia-based programs and projects and to broadcast Virginia's initiatives. To do this we need you to submit stories, pictures, newspaper articles, notices of program awards and events, and any other news item that will make "Recycling Lines" a who's who and what's what in Virginia.

Beginning in July, "Recycling Lines" is your news outlet. What program of yours is making Virginia and your locality a better place for recycling? What have you learned about making your recycling program the best it can be? How are your citizens participating in reducing waste and promoting recycling? How are your local elected officials making waste prevention and recycling a priority?

Send us your news, your stories, and your information NOW! We'll put it "out there" for all to see. Let's show what Virginia is accomplishing!

Call Sheila Barnett at (804) 698-4055 or email her at smbarnett@deq.virginia.gov.

National News on Electronics Recycling

Due to the potential danger that improper management of end-of-life electronics poses for the environment, California, Maine, Maryland and Washington State have enacted e-waste legislation and nineteen other states have e-waste legislation pending. Go to <http://www.computertakeback.com/docUploads/Compare%204%20state%20laws.pdf> to see a comparison of California, Maine, Maryland and Washington electronics recycling laws. To see what other states are considering, go to:

http://www.computertakeback.com/docUploads/Ewaste_legislation_state_summary2006.xls.

Dell and HP have provided free computer recycling to their customers who turned in previously used Dell and HP equipment. On April 21, Apple Computer announced that they too, will offer free take back and recycling of their old computers to consumers who purchase new MACs.

To learn more about electronic recycling issues, go to <http://www.computertakeback.com/>. To learn more about specific manufacturer's take back programs, DEQ has a list under the Re-think Initiative page. Go to:

<http://www.deq.virginia.gov/ecycling/links.html>.

Recycling Lines Continued

Comparing a Landfill to Jurassic Park

Visiting a landfill is similar to what a visit to Jurassic Park might be like, observed a group of cub scouts and girl scouts from Lovettsville. Instead of dinosaurs, there are hungry 60-ton garbage compactors and vehicles with wheels larger than monster trucks on the prowl.

The **Loudoun County** Solid Waste Management Facility in Leesburg welcomes school groups, scout troops and anyone interested in learning more about recycling and how to properly dispose of household hazardous wastes. Contact Tony Hayes at 703-777-0187 or dhayes@loudoun.gov to get information about touring the Loudoun County Landfill.

UVA Students "Chuck it for Charity"

Final exams at the University of Virginia were May 7-15, 2006 and while students were moving out of their dorms, they were "Chuckling for Charity" unwanted items to be distributed among disadvantaged people in Charlottesville and Albemarle County.

Chuck it for Charity is a recycling program run through the University's Division of Recoverable and Disposable Resources.

In the spring of 2005, students donated 71 tons which was picked up by local charities. This program has several benefits: it supports the work of local charities in meeting the needs of citizens, it reduces the quantity of what would otherwise be sent to the landfill, and last year, it saved the University \$21 per ton in disposal costs.

For more information, contact Bruce "Sonny" Beale at (434) 982-5438 or bcb8s@virginia.edu.

Plastics Recycling Study to be done on the Eastern Shore

The **Eastern Shore of Virginia** received a \$75,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development sector for a study to find methods to recycle agricultural and aquacultural plastics. The Eastern Shore will look for companies that can use the plastics and explore the best way to pack and send these items to the companies. Once they find the best method for gathering and packing the plastics, they will hold outreach meetings for the agricultural community to discuss how the plastics could be gathered and recycled. Presently, almost 1,200 tons of plastics are being landfilled annually.

For more information, contact: Vern Orrell at (804) 287-1590 or vern.orell@va.usda.gov.

FREE Public Service Recycling Campaign Materials



The American Beverage Association has provided a free ad campaign to encourage recycling.

To see what is available, go to: www.recycleitnow.net/home.asp. If you have questions about the campaign, contact Preston Read of the ABA at (202) 463-6732 or pread@ameribev.org.

Disclaimer: Reference in this publication to any specific business, commercial product, process or service by trade name, trademark or otherwise does not constitute or imply endorsement, recommendation or favoring by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality or any other state government agency.

Did You Know?

- ✓ **The application** to apply for FY 2007 litter and recycling grants **MUST be postmarked by June 30, 2006** in order to qualify for grant funds. The application must be signed by the County Administrator, City Manager, or the Town Manager. To download an application, go to: <http://www.deq.virginia.gov/recycle/forms.html>. The Performance and Accounting section **MUST be postmarked by August 31, 2006.**
- ✓ **Clarke County** High School received the Recycling School of the Year award from the Clarke County Litter and Recycling Committee. Contact Alison Teetor at (540) 955-5132 or ateetor@co.clarke.va.us.
- ✓ The Regional Solid Waste Management Board which serves **Stafford County** is expanding their recycling and reuse program to include collecting clothing, bedding, curtains, table clothes and towels for Goodwill. Contact Diane Jones at (540) 658-8680 or djones@co.stafford.va.us.
- ✓ **The Southeastern Public Service Authority (SPSA)** won an Award of Excellence from the 2006 Communicator Awards Competition. The Virginian-Pilot has been publishing articles once a month ranging in topics from what to do with old car tires and white goods to how to recycle Christmas trees. Contact Felicia Blow at (757) 420-4700 or fblow@spsa.com.
- ✓ **Norfolk** residents recycled unwanted electronics for free in May. 523 vehicles brought 30,616 pounds of electronics. Contact John Duell at (757) 441-1347 or john.deuel@norfolk.gov.
- ✓ **Chesterfield County** hosted its first annual Environmental Fair on May 12 – 13. Over 500 people attended this event. Contact Pam Cooper at (804) 751-2227 or cooperp@chesterfield.gov.

Calendar of Events:

June:

- 10 **James City County** – Household Hazardous Waste and Computer Recycling Collection. Tewning Road. 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. <http://www.james-city.va.us/getinvolved/recycling.html>.

Loudoun County – Household Hazardous Waste Collection. Freedom High School, 25450 Riding Center Drive, South Riding. 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. <http://www.loudoun.gov/oswm/hhw.htm>

- 24 **Newport News** - Household Hazardous Waste and Electronics Recycling Event. Gildersleeve Middle School, One Minton Drive (Behind Todd Stadium) 9:00 a.m. – Noon. <http://www.newport-news.va.us/pwdept/sw/hhw.htm>

July:

- 8 **York County** – Computer Recycling Event Country Drive, Yorktown. 8:00a.m. – Noon. <http://www.james-city.va.us/getinvolved/recycling.html>,